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TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ARTHUR T. LEAHY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: DOUGLAS R. FAILING, P.E.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAY PROGRAM

SUBJECT: COUNTYWIDE ZERO-EMISSION TRUCKS COLLABORATIVE

ISSUE

At its August 4, 2011 meeting, the Board authorized staff to lead a Countywide Zero-Emission Trucks Collaborative to promote consistency among public agencies in working to catalyze the development and deployment of zero-emission trucks in Los Angeles County. This Board Box is an update to this endeavor.

BACKGROUND

For the past three years, staff has engaged the public regarding the improvements being considered in the I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS. One of the alternatives being evaluated in the environmental document includes a Freight Corridor that is to be used by trucks with zero tailpipe emissions.

In order to help the public make more informed decisions on the alternatives being discussed in the I-710 EIR/EIS staff has worked with CALSTART in a process separate from the environmental document, but on a parallel timeframe, to help develop the concept and understanding of zero-emission trucks. CALSTART was tasked to evaluate the technological constraints and the commercial viability of zero-emission trucks. CALSTART is currently finalizing the report which concludes that zero-emission truck technologies are evolving rapidly enough and can be commercially available in and about the same timeframe as when the I-710 Freight Corridor is projected to be completed. Additionally, CALSTART has been tasked with forming and facilitating user groups that will provide input, opinions, and concerns on the zero-emission truck concept-discussion from a truck manufacturer and user perspective.

The objectives of the Zero-Emission Truck Collaborative, assisted by the efforts undertaken by CALSTART, will:

1. Establish a consistent policy framework amongst public agencies to stimulate the commercialization of zero-emission trucks;
2. Help the public better understand what public agencies are doing in the near-term to promote zero-emission trucks;
3. Advance the commercialization of zero-emission demonstration trucks; and
4. Seek grant funds for a demonstration project

DISCUSSION

Staff has initiated discussions with the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, SCAG, Caltrans, SCAQMD, City of Los Angeles, and the Gateway Cities Council of Governments regarding this collaborative. The first meeting will take place in December 2011.

Developments of the collaborative will be posted on the Countywide Zero-Emission Trucks Collaborative web page, via: Projects and Programs (tab) → All Projects and Reports (tab) → Funding and Other Programs (heading):

<http://www.metro.net/projects/countywide-zero-emission-trucks-collaborative/>

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue to provide briefings on the development on the Countywide Zero-Emission Truck Collaborative.

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